

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully traverse and request reconsideration.

Claims 24, 29-33, 38-41 and 57-59 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,923,307 (Hogle). This is a new ground of rejection. Hogle is directed to a logical monitor configuration in a multi-monitor environment by using two monitors to display a single virtual desktop environment. Multiple monitors are arranged in logical space to form a contiguous and non-overlapping region by determining relative positions and logical space for the monitor spaces. Hogle is directed to a completely different system and operation from that claimed by Applicants.

Also, it appears that the rejection fails to address claim language and as such, must be withdrawn. In any event, the missing language not addressed in the office action is also not taught or suggested in the cited reference. For example, claim 24 requires reconfiguring of multiple displays so that multiple displays are configured in accordance with display preferences when the current configuration can be reconfigured after the computing system and multiple displays have already been configured. There is no reconfiguration described or suggested in the cited reference. In fact, the claim language is not addressed in the office action. As noted in Applicants' Specification, Applicants claim a system by which images that may require higher quality are output to a display capable of providing the desired quality and images requiring less quality to a display having a lower quality can be accommodated. As such, if a plurality of monitors having different display resolutions or image quality output are coupled to the claimed system, a higher quality image is output, if possible, to the higher quality screen and a lower quality image is output to the lower quality screen. If this is not possible, the images may be displayed on the display having the lower quality. A single coupling controller causes a plurality of display controllers to be operably coupled to the displays. A dynamic coupling of displays to

display controllers is provided such that image quality can be optimized, user preferences can be accommodated and application preferences can be accommodated.

As best understood, Hogle is directed to merely utilizing two monitors to provide a single virtual desktop. Claim 24 as noted above, requires not only configuring the computer system, but also that the processing unit reconfigures the coupling of the multiple displays to the computing system when the current configuration can be reconfigured. In addition, claims 24 and 33 require a display controller that simultaneously provides display data to the multiple displays and the display controller is coupled to a plurality of screen memories each storing separate display data and the display controller retrieves the display data from the plurality of screen memories. As such, a display controller outputs the display data to both displays. In contrast, Hogle teaches a different approach, namely two separate video graphics adapters shown as device adapter 1 and device adapter 2 (36, 205) as cited by the Examiner. As such, the Examiner cites two display controllers as 36 and 205, however the claim requires a single display controller that simultaneously provides display data to the multiple displays and retrieves the display data from different display memories. However, the Hogle reference cannot operate as claimed since the system of Hogle uses two separate display controllers neither of which have access to the screen memory of the other. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. The dependent claims add additional novel and non-obvious subject matter.

Also as to claim 59, the claim requires switching switches to couple differing screen memories with different display controllers to output display data to the multiple displays. Again, the Hogle reference does not have such switches to couple differing screen memories with differing display controllers since two separate adapters are used, neither of which are

switched to use different screen memories with different display controllers. Each adapter has its own screen memory which is not being switched in the Hogle reference. Accordingly, this claim is also believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 42-53 and 56 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hogle in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,963,192 (Wong). As to claim 42, Applicants respectfully submit that Hogle again has been cited as teaching the claimed screen memories and coupling controller. However, the memory claimed is memory wherein “the screen memory having a plurality of screen memory portions, each of the plurality of screen memory portions storing separate display data”. However, the screen memory cited in the office action is referred to in column 6, line 56 through column 7, line 5. However again, as noted above, the frame buffer referred to in the cited portion refers to the frame buffer in each adapter or each separate display controller 36 and 205. There is not a frame buffer described in the cited portion that includes a plurality of screen memory portions wherein each of the plurality of screen memory portions store separate display data. As such, the claim is in condition for allowance. In addition, the claim requires a coupling module that is coupled to the plurality of displays and the screen memory. Again, there is no such coupling module as there is no similar structure as described. Accordingly, the claim is in condition for allowance for this reason as well. In addition, other differences will also be recognized by those of ordinary skill in the art.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the below-listed attorney if the Examiner believes that a telephone conference will advance the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 7-13-07

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